

SB 1556 (Torlakson)
The Great California Delta Trail

Author: Senator Torlakson

Principle Co-Author: Assemblymember Wolk

Co-Authors: Senators Chesbro, Machado and Ortiz; Assemblymember Jones

Summary: This bill authorizes the creation of a California Delta Trail and requires the Delta Protection Commission to create a plan for designing, implementing and maintaining this Trail. The California Delta Trail would be a bike and pedestrian trail system and recreation corridor along more than 1,000 miles of Delta waterfront in Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Sacramento, Yolo and Solano Counties.

Background: The Delta Trail vision was inspired by the San Francisco Bay Trail, which plans to circle over 450 miles of Bay waterfront and link over 47 cities and communities. The Delta Trail will link with the San Francisco Bay Trail terminus in Martinez and end at the Bay Trail in Benecia to ultimately create a 1,500 mile loop around California's the entire San Francisco Bay and Delta water ways.

Currently, much of the Delta is inaccessible except by boat, or in some cases, by car. Delta Protection Commission surveys over the past ten years have found that there are many unmet recreational needs for the Delta region including trails for hiking and bicycling, facilities for wildlife observation and education, water sports access, bank fishing areas, and improved historic and cultural sites with interpretive information.

The Delta Trail will provide recreational access to the Delta ecosystem, 22 current recreational facilities within the area, and miles of historic agricultural lands and small towns. The Delta Trail will connect major trail systems, planned and existing in the cities, towns and counties along the Delta waterfront, and fill in the gaps between in order to create one contiguous loop around the region.

The California Delta Trail bill will bring together Delta counties, cities, local government associations and agencies for collaboration on this recreational and public health vision.

Status: **Introduced 2/23/06.**

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Support:

Oppose: